

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Kerry White, on January 16, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)
Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Theresa Manzella, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Mark Noland (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lexi Goble, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 124, 1/2/2017; HB 140, 1/2/2017; HJ 3, 1/2/2017

HEARING ON HB 124

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:22 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D), HD 42, opened the hearing on HB 124,
Require education program for water commissioners.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:02 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC)
Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)
00:02:54 Jan Langel, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
00:05:14 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:13 Rep. Flynn
00:06:39 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy
00:07:02 Rep. Flynn
00:07:15 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy
00:07:24 Rep. Flynn
00:07:31 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy
00:07:50 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:08:27 Rep. Curdy
00:08:51 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:09:22 Rep. Windy Boy
00:09:46 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:10:22 Rep. Fleming
00:10:51 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:11:00 Rep. Fleming
00:11:23 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:11:49 Rep. B. Brown
00:12:13 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:12:33 Rep. B. Brown
00:12:53 Krista Lee Evans, SWRC, AGAI
00:14:37 Rep. Flynn
00:15:15 Jan Langel, DNRC
00:16:22 Chair White
00:17:09 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy
00:17:59 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:07 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy

HEARING ON HB 140

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:19:08 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D), HD 42, opened the hearing on HB 140, Clarify water commissioner appointments.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:22:40 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC)
Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

00:23:40 Jan Langel, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:24:04 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah11a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:26 Rep. Flynn

00:27:17 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy

00:27:50 Chair White

00:27:54 Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:28:17 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy

00:28:46 Vice Chair. Z. Brown

00:29:33 Chair White

00:29:38 Rep. Windy Boy

00:30:04 Joe Kolman, LSD

00:30:10 Rep. Windy Boy

00:30:30 Joe Kolman, LSD

00:31:29 Rep. Windy Boy

00:31:39 Joe Kolman, LSD

00:32:05 Chair White

00:32:12 Rep. B. Brown

00:32:47 Chair White

00:34:36 Krista Lee Evans, SWRC, AGAI

00:35:05 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

00:35:18 Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy

HEARING ON HJ 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:37:34 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HJ 3, Interim study of water right change process.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:44:32 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)
00:46:28 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC)
Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)
00:48:43 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:50:40 Mike Murphy, Montana Water rights Association (MWRA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:51:45 Jan Langel, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:52:08 Chair White
00:53:11 Chelcie Cargill, MFBF
00:53:43 Rep. Flynn
00:54:18 Vice Chair Z. Brown
00:56:12 Rep. Flynn
00:56:34 Vice Chair Z. Brown
00:57:31 Chair White
00:58:13 Vice Chair Z. Brown
00:58:35 Chair White
00:59:32 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:01:21 Chair White

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:26 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:02:33 Chair White
01:04:11 Vice Chair Z. Brown
01:04:24 Chair White

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 01:05:19

Lexi Goble, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah11aad.pdf](#))